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DIAPER CONSTRUCTION

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1 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to a diaper construction; and, more particularly, to a combination of a throw-away diaper insert and an infant's diaper wrap.

SUMMARY

The type of garment with which the insertable throw-away diaper to be described is most advantageously employed is what is termed a diaper wrap which includes a pants-like garment separable at both sides in order to enable laying out in a flat condition. Other garments that may be used for this purpose include training pants, pajamas or any other pant-like garment separable at the sides by buttons, snaps, zippers or other releasable fastening means enabling the garment to be opened to a relatively flat condition. When laid out flat the garment has an inside surface and an outside surface, and is of generally elongated rectangular shape with two centrally located inwardly curved side portions which adapt to the infant's legs when worn by the infant. At the four corner portions on the inner surface there are provided hook and loop connector parts spaced inwardly from the lateral edges. A second pair of hook and loop connector parts are secured to the inner surface of the garment just outwardly of the first described hook and

1 loop connectors at one end of the garment. At the
other end of the garment on the outer surface of the
garment, there are provided further complementary hook
and loop connectors adjacent each lateral side of the
5 garment for mating with the two opposite end internal
connector parts of the garment.

The insert is of similar geometry to the
garment and is constructed of multiple layers of an
absorbent material which has the advantageous property
10 of absorbing and not wetting the garment.
Additionally, the diaper insert has an inner surface
(i.e., surface to contact the infant) and an outer
surface which on assembly contacts the inner surface of
the garment. At the four corner portions of the outer
15 surface of the insert there are provided individual
hook and loop connector parts which have a generally L-
shape with sides paralleling both the end edge and the
lateral edge of the insert. With this L-shaped
construction, locking interconnection with the outer
20 garment is adjustable over a range of positions to
accommodate varying sizes of infants.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

In the accompanying drawing:

25 FIG. 1 is a perspective view of an infant's
garment with a throw away diaper insert in accordance
with the present invention;

FIG. 2 is an elevational view of the garment
of FIG. 1 showing it partially released;

30 FIG. 3 shows a front view of an infant's
garment modified for practicing the invention;

FIG. 4 shows the modified infant's garment of
FIG. 3 with the insert in place;

1 FIG. 5 is a view similar to FIG. 4 showing
part of the insert turned back and disconnected from
the infant's garment; and

5 FIG. 6 shows the infant's garment and insert
in separated spaced apart relationship.

DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Turning now to the drawings and particularly FIGS. 1 and 2, the diaper arrangement of the present invention enumerated generally as 10 is seen to include in its major parts an outer pants-like garment 12 preferably what is termed a diaper wrap, which will be hereinafter referred to as a garment, within which a disposable throw-away diaper insert 14 is unitarily and releasably secured for acting as diaper absorbing liquids while preventing substantial wetting of the garment. Also, as will be described, the combination garment and diaper insert can be quickly placed on an infant and just as quickly removed, while the throw away insert can be removed from the garment separately for disposal.

As can be seen best in FIG. 3, the garment 12 which is preferably what is sometimes termed a diaper wrap or training-wrap is typically constructed of a soft-to-the-touch textile fabric, such as cotton. The garment is generally rectangular and elongated with the two end edges 16 and 18 provided with an elastic so that they are shortened from the maximum width. In addition, the two longitudinal sides are curved inwardly as at 20 and 22 in order to accommodate the legs of the infant and aid in containing the insert.

What is to be the inner surface of the garment in use and identified as 24 in FIG. 3, includes first and second hook and loop connector parts 26 and 28, respectively, adjacent the edge 16 and a lateral edge.

1 Similarly, third and fourth hook and loop connector
parts 30 and 32 are located adjacent the opposite edge
18 and respectively adjacent the lateral peripheral
edges. Each of the connector parts 26-32 are of the
5 same character (e.g., loop connector parts). Just
laterally outward from each of the two connector parts
26 and 28 there are located fifth and sixth connector
parts 34 and 36, respectively.

10 On the outside surface of the garment and
respectively closely adjacent the garment end edge 18,
there are further connector parts 38 and 40 of such
character as to enable mating with connector part 34
and 36 (i.e., loop connector).

15 It is instructive to note at this time that
when the garment is folded from the position shown in
FIG. 3 to the use position of FIGS. 1 and 2, that
releasable interconnection of the garment sides is
achieved by the connector parts 38 and 40 mating with
connector parts 34 and 36.

20 Returning now particularly to FIGS. 5 and 6,
the throw-away diaper insert 14 is seen to include an
elongated member of geometry and dimensions
substantially similar to those of the garment. That
is, the insert is generally rectangular with two narrow
25 opposite end edges 42 and 44 with the long side edges
being curved inwardly toward each other as at 46 and
48. Preferably the insert 14 is constructed of
multiple layers of an absorbent flushable paper which
are unitarily secured together along the peripheral
30 edges by a line of stitching 50, for example.

Alternatively, the paper layers composing the diaper
insert may be secured at their edges by an adhesive.

35 Adjacent each corner of the insert, there is
provided a generally L-shaped hook and loop connector
part 52, its parts extending generally parallel to both

1 the end edge and adjacent lateral edge. The connector parts 52 are all complementary to the connector parts 26-32 mounted on the garment 12.

5 In assembly the garment 12 is laid out flat as in FIG. 6 with the inside surface 24 facing upward. The diaper insert 14 is then laid down onto the garment with insert connector parts 52 being releasably secured to the garment connector parts 26-32. The combination garment and diaper insert may now be placed on the
10 infant and the garment connector parts 38, 40 connected to connector parts 34, 36 holding the assembly on the infant.

15 The connector referred to herein as a hook and loop connector is well known and sold under the trade designation Velcro.

20 Although the invention has been described in connection with a preferred embodiment, it is understood that those skilled in the appertaining arts may make changes that come within the spirit of invention as described and within the ambit of the appended claims.